FILED

AUG 1 0 2015

Clerk, U.S. District Court District Of Montana Missoula

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA BUTTE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ROBERT ELLIS NORRIS, aka Chris, aka Bob,

Defendant.

CR-15-22-BU-DLC

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING PLEA

The Defendant, by consent, has appeared before me under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 and has entered a plea of guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Count 1), and two counts of aggravated identity theft and aiding and abetting in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A(a)(1) and 18 U.S.C. § 2 (Counts 24 and 25), as set forth in the Indictment. In exchange for Defendant's plea, the United States has agreed to dismiss Counts 2-23, and 26 and 27 of the Indictment.

After examining the Defendant under oath, I have made the following FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION - Page 1

## determinations:

- 1. That the Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed and voluntary plea,
- 2. That the Defendant is aware of the nature of the chargesagainst him and consequences of pleading guilty to the charge,
- 3. That the Defendant fully understands his constitutional rights, and the extent to which he is waiving those rights by pleading guilty, and
- 4. That the plea of guilty is a knowing and voluntary plea, supported by an independent basis in fact sufficient to prove each of the essential elements of the offense charged.

The Court further concludes that the Defendant had adequate time to review the Plea Agreement with counsel, that he fully understands each and every provision of the agreement and that all of the statements in the Plea Agreement are true. Therefore, I recommend that the Defendant be adjudged guilty of Counts 1, 24, and 25 of the Indictment, and that sentence be imposed. I further recommend that Counts 2-23, and 26 and 27 of the Indictment be dismissed.

This report is forwarded with the recommendation that the Court defer a decision regarding acceptance until the Court has reviewed the Plea Agreement and the presentence report.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION - Page 2

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

Jeremiah C. Lynch

United States Magistrate Judge